

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 NEA-10 DRC-01 /137 W

----- 013020

R 020928Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9423

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONYCL SURABAYA

UNCLAS JAKARTA 12925

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,PBOR,MOPS,ID,MY,SN,US

SUBJECT: EDITORIALS CRITICIZE US NAVY SHIP TRANSIT THROUGH
MALACCA STRAITS

REFS: A) JAKARTA 12825 B) JAKARTA 12782

SUMMARY: EDITORIALS IN THREE JAKARTA DAILIES

(INDONESIA RAYA, MERDS

A AND JAKARTA TIMES) NOVEMBER 2

ATTACK US FOR PASSAGE OF US NAVY SHIPS THROUGH MALACCA

STRAITS WITHOUT INFORMING GOI, IN "VIOLATION" OF

INDONESIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS. RAYA AND TIMES ALSO

CRITICIZED MALIK'S WEAK RESPONSE TO INCIDENT AND URGED

GOI TO STAND UP FOR NATIONAL RIGHTS. MERDEKA SAID

EVENT SHOWED WEAKNESS OF GOI DEFENSE POLICY

RESULTING FROM IGGI INFLUENCE. SINAR HARAPAN

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REPORTED MALIK RIBBING AMBASSADOR THAT NEXT

TIME SUCH AN INCIDENT OCCURS, "MISSILES" WILL
BE USED AGAINST SHIPS. END SUMMARY

VM IN HARSH EDITORIAL ON SHIP TRANSIT EPISODE
INDONESIAN RAYA SAID US SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE
"DECENT" AND CRITICIZED MALIK AND FOREIGN DEPARTMENT
FOR WEAK AND EQUIVOCAL REACTION TO INCIDENT (SEE
REF A.) RAYA ALSO SAID "CRITICISM OR REGRETS ARE
NOT ENOUGH. THE US MUST BE GIVEN A FIRM WARNING."
DEPLORING LACK OF INDONESIAN NATIONAL PRIDE IN
RESPONDING TO US ACTION, RAYA TERMED INCIDENT
"TANTAMOUNT TO SPITTING IN THE FACE OF INDONESIA,
MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE". EDITORIAL SAID JOINT STAND
BY INDONESIA, MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE IN DEFENSE OF
TERRITORIAL SEA CONCEPT IS ONLY WAY TO PREVENT FUTURE
VIOLATIONS BY GREAT POWERS, ALL OF WHOM REFUSE TO
RECOGNIZE THIS CONCEPT.

2. MERDEKA (XENOPHOBIC AND FORMERLY SUKARNOIST DAILY)
ACCUSED US OF "SHOW OF FORCE" DIRECTED TOWARDS INDONESIA,
SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA IN VIOLATION OF THEIR TERRITORIAL
WATERS. ALSO ATTACKED GOI FOR WEAKNESS OF INDONESIAN
NAVY, WHICH, IT SAID, RESULTED FROM BOWING TO IGGI
PRESSURE TO REDUCE DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. AS RESULT,
INDONESIA UNABLE TO ENFORCE HER CLAIM OF SOVEREIGNTY
OVER TERRITORIAL WATERS AND MUST BE PASSIVE OBSERVER TO
BIG POWER NAVAL ACTIVITIES IN ADJOINING WATERS.

3. IN BRIEF NEWS REPORT NOVEMBER 1, AFTERNOON
SINAR HARAPAN QUOTED MALIK TWITTING AMBASSADOR
ON STRAITS INCIDENT IN LIGHT-HEARTED EXCHANGE
AT UN BUILDING CEREMONY OCTOBER 31 (SEE REFS A, B)
MALIK REPORTEDLY SAID "LOOK OUT PAK GALBRAITH - YOUR
SHIPS ARE VERY BOLD TO PASS THROUGH MY WATERS.
NEXT TIME I'LL SHOOT MISSILES AT THEM".

4. THERE HAS BEEN NO EDITORIAL COMMENT ON INCIDENT
IN LEADING INDEPENDENTS SINAR HARAPAN OR KOMPAS, OR
IN OTHER INDEPENDENT OR GOVERNMENT-ASSOCIATED
PAPERS.

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GALBRAITH

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